

JUDAS MACCABÆUS:
A
SACRED DRAMA.

AS PERFORMED
At CHURCH-LANGTON in *Leicestershire.*



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Price ONE SHILLING.

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DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

JUDAS MACCABÆUS.

SIMON, *his Brother.*

CHORUS *of Israelitish Men and Women.*

***** *****



Printed by JOHN GREGORY, Macclesfield.

THE ONE SHILLING

JUDAS MACCABÆUS:
A
SACRED DRAMA.

PART I.

*Chorus of Israelitish Men and Women lamenting the
Death of Mattathias, Father of Judas Maccabæus.*

MOURN ye afflicted children, the remains,
Of captive Judah, mourn in solemn strains;
Your sanguine hopes of liberty give o'er,
Your father, friend and hero, is no more.

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Man.

Well brethren may your sorrows flow,
In all the expressive signs of woe;
Your softer garments tear,
And squalid sackcloth wear;
Your drooping heads with ashes strew,
And with a flowing tear your cheeks bedew.

R E-

(4.)

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Woman.

Daughters let your distressful cries,
And loud lament ascend the skies ;
Your tender bosoms beat and tear
With hands remorseless your dishelvel'd hair :
For pale and breathless *Mattathias* lies ;
Sad emblem of his countries miseries !

D U E T.

*From this dread scene, these adverse powers,
Ah ! whither shall we fly ?
O Solyma, those boasted tow'rs
In smoky ruins lie.
Ah ! whither shall we fly ?*

C H O R U S.

*For Sion lamentation make,
With words that weep and tears that speak.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

S I M O N.

Not vain is all this storm of grief,
To vent our sorrows gives relief,

Wretch-

(5)

Wretched indeed ! but let not Judah's race,
Their ruin with desponding arms embrace.

Distractful doubt and desperation,
Ill become the chosen nation,
Chosen by the great *I A M*,
The lord of hosts, who still the same,
We trust will give attentive ear,
To the sincerity of pray'r.

A I R.

*Pious orgies, pious airs,
Decent sorrows, decent cares,
Will to the lord ascend, and move
His pity, and regain his love.*

C H O R U S.

*O father, whose almighty pow'r
The heav'ns and earth and seas adore !
The hearts of Judah thy delight,
In one defensive band unite.
O grant a leader bold and brave,
If not to conquer born to save.*

R E-

(6)

R E C I T A T I V E.

S I M O N.

I feel, I feel the deity within,
Who the bright *cherubim* between,
His radiant glory erst display'd
To *Israel's* distressful pray'r,
He hath vouchsaf'd a gracious ear,
And points out *Maccabæus* to their aid.
Judas shall set the captive free,
And lead us on to victory.

A I R.

*Arm, arm, ye brave ; a noble cause,
The cause of heaven your zeal demands ;
In defence of your nation, religion & laws,
The almighty Jehovah will strengthen your hands.*

C H O R U S.

*We come, we come, in bright array,
Juda thy sceptre to obey.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

JUDAS.

'Tis well my friends with transport I behold
The spirit of our fathers fam'd of old,

For

For their exploits in war.—Oh may their fire
With active courage *you* their sons inspire :

As when the mighty *Joshua* fought,
And those amazing wonders wrought,
Stood still obedient to his voice the Sun,
'Till kings he had destroy'd & kingdoms won.

A I R.

*Call forth thy pow'rs my soul, and dare
The conflict of unequal war :
Great is the glory of the conquering sword,
That triumphs in sweet liberty restor'd.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Woman.

To heavens almighty king we kneel,
For blessings on this exemplary zeal.
Bless him *Jehovah* bless him, and once more
To thine own *Israel* liberty restore.

A I R.

*O liberty, thou choicest treasure,
Seat of virtue, source of pleasure ;
Life without thee knows no blessing,
No endearment worth caressing.*

AIR

(8)

A I R.

*Come ever smiling liberty,
And with thee bring thy jocund train
For thee we pant and sigh for thee,
With whom eternal pleasures reign.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Man.

These noble views, O Judas, shall inspire
Our eager souls with thy heroic fire.

A I R.

*'Tis liberty dear liberty alone,
That gives fresh beauty to the sun :
That makes all nature look more gay,
And lovely life with pleasure steal away.*

C H O R U S.

*Lead on, lead on, Judah disdains,
The galling load of hostile chains.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

J U D A S

So will'd my zealous father, now at rest,
In the eternal mansions of the blest ;

“ Can

“ Can ye behold, said he, the miseries,
“ In which the longinsulted *Judah* lies?
“ Can ye behold their dire distress,
“ And not at least attempt redress?
Then faintly with expiring breath,
“ Resolve my sons on liberty or death.

R E C I T A T I V E *accompanied.*

We come ; Oh see thy sons prepare,
The rough habiliments of war ;
With hearts intripid and revengeful hands,
To execute, O fire, thy dread commands.

S E M I - C H O R U S.

*Disdainful of danger we'll rush on the foe,
That thy power Oh Jehovah, all nations may know.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

J U D A S

Ambition ! if e'er honour was thy aim,
Challenge it here : _____
The glorious cause gives sanction to thy claim

A I R

(10)

*No unballow'd desire,
Our breast shall inspire ;
Nor lust of unbounded pow'r ;
But peace to obtain ;
Free peace let us gain,
And conquest shall ask no more.*

C H O R U S.

*Hear us O lord, on thee thy servants call,
Resolv'd on conquest or a glorious fall.*

P A R T. II.

C H O R U S.

*FALL'N is the foe,—so fall thy foes O lord,
Where warlike Judas weilds the righteous sword*

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Man.

*Victorious hero, fame shall tell,
With her last breath how Apolonius fell,
And all Samaria fled by thee pursued,
Through hills of carnage and a sea of blood.*

Whilst

(II)

While thy resistless prowess dealt around,
With their own leaders sword, the deathful wound.
Thus too the haughty *Seron*, *Syria's* boast,
Before the fell with his unnumber'd host.

A I R.

*So rapid thy course is,
Not numberless forces
Withstand thy all conquering sword;
Tho' nations surround thee,
No pow'r shall confound thee,
'Till freedom again be restor'd.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Woman.

O let eternal honours crown his name ;
Judas ! first worthy in the rolls of fame,
Say “ He put on his breast plate as a giant,
“ And girt his warlike harness about him.
“ In his acts he was like a lion,
“ And like a lion's whelp roaring for his prey. *

A I R.

*From mighty kings he took the spoil,
And with his acts made Judah smile ;*

* I Maccab. iii. 3. &c.

Ju-

*Judah rejoiceth in his name,
And triumphs in her hero's fame.*

C H O R U S.

*Hail, hail, Judea, happy land!
Salvation prospers in his hand.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

J U D A S.

'Thanks to my brethren,—but look up to heav'n ;
To heav'n let glory, and all praise be given ;
To heav'n give your applause,
Nor add *the second cause*,
As once your fathers did in *Midian*,
Saying, *The sword of God and Gideon*.
It is the lord who for his *Israel* fought,
And this our wonderful salvation wrought.

A I R.

*How vain is man who boasts in fight
The valour of gigantic might ;
And dreams not that a hand unseen,
Directs and guides this weak machine !*

R E-

R E C I T A T I V E.

*Israelitish Messenger.*O *Judas*, O my Brethren !

New Scenes of bloody War

In all their Horrors rise :

Prepare, prepare,

Or soon we fall a Sacrifice

To great *Antiochus* ; from th' *Egyptian* Coast,
(Where *Ptolomy* hath *Memphis* and *Pelusium* lost)He sends the valiant *Gorgias*, and commands

His proud victorious Bands

To root out *Israel's* Strength, and to erase,Ev'ry Memorial of the *Sacred Place*.

A I R and C H O R U S.

*Ah ! wretched, wretched Israel ! fall'n how low,
From joyous Transport to desponding Woe.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

S I M O N.

Be comforted.—Nor think these Plagues are sent
For your Destruction, but for Chastisement.

Heav'n

Heav'n oft' in Mercy punisheth ; that Sin
 May feel its own demerits, from within,
 And urge not utter Ruin.—Turn to God,
 And draw a Blessing from his Iron Rod.

A I R.

*The Lord worketh Wonders,
 His Glory to raise,
 And still as he thunders,
 Is fearful in Praise.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

JUDAS.

My Arms !—Against this *Gorgias* will I go—
 The *Idumean* Governor shall know ;
 How vain, how ineffective his Design,
 While Rage his Leader, and *Jehovah* mine.

A I R.

*Sound on Alarm.—Your silver Trumpets sound,
 And call the Brave, and only Brave, around.—
 Who listeth follow ; — To the Field again,—
 Justice with Courage is a thousand Men.*

CHORUS.

C H O R U S.

*We hear, we hear the pleasing dreadful Call ;
And follow thee to Conquest ;——If to fall,—
For Laws, Religion, Liberty, we fall.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

S I M O N.

Enough.—To Heav'n we leave the rest.—
Such gen'rous Ardour firing ev'ry Breast,
We may divide our Cares —The Field be thine,
O Judas, and the Sanctuary mine.
Lo, Sion, holy Sion, Seat of God,
In ruinous Heaps is by the Heathen trod ;
Such Profanation calls for swift Redress,
If e'er in Battle *Israel* hopes Success.

A I R.

*With pious Hearts, and brave as pious,
O Sion, we thy Call attend :
Nor dread the Nations that defy us,
God our Defender, God our Friend.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Man.

Ye Worshippers of God,
Down, down with the polluted Altars, down ;

Hurl

Hurl *Jupiter Olympus* from his Throne,
Nor rev'rence *Bacchus* with his Ivy Crown,
And Ivy-wreathed Rod.

Our Fathers never knew
Him, or his beastly Crew,
Or knowing, scorn'd such Idol Vanities.

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Woman.

No more in *Sion* let the Virgin Throng,
Wild with Delusion pay their nightly Song
To *Ashtoreth*, yclep'd the *Queen of Heav'n* :
Hence to *Phœnicia* be the Goddess driv'n ;
Or be she with her Priests and Pageants hurl'd
To the remotest Corner of the World ;
Ne'er to delude us more with pious Lies.

D U E T T.

*O never, never bow we down
To the rude Stock, or sculpter'd Stone ;
But ever worship Israel's God,
Ever obedient to his Nod.*

C H O R U S.

*We never, never will bow down
To the rude stock, or sculpter'd stone ; —
We worship God and God alone.*

PART.

P A R T. III.

Israelitish Priest. [Having recover'd the Sanctuary, &c]

A I R.

FATHER of heav'n, from thy eternal throne
Look with an eye of blessing down ;
While we prepare with holy rites
To solemnize the feast of lights.
And thus our grateful hearts employ ;
And in thy Praise,
This altar raise
With carols of triumphant joy.

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Man.

See, see yon flames that from the altar broke,
In spiry streams pursue the trailing smoke !
The fragrant incense mounts the yielding air,
Sure presage that the lord hath heard our pray'r.

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Woman.

O grant it heav'n, that our long woes may cease,
And Judah's daughters taste the calm of peace ;

Sons

Sons, brothers, husbands to bewail no more,
Tortur'd at home, or havock'd in the war.

A I R.

*So shall the lute and harp awake,
And sprightly voice sweet descant run ;
Seraphic melody to make,
In the pure strains of Jesse's son.*

Israelitish Messenger.

From *Capharselama*, on eagle wings I fly,
With tidings of impetuous joy.—
Came *Lysias* with his host, array'd
In coat of mail ; their massy shields
Of gold and brals, flash'd lightning through the fields.
While the huge tow'r-back'd elephants display'd
A horrid front ; but *Judas*, undismay'd
Met, fought, and vanquish'd all the rageful train.
Nor could the bold *Arabians* save
Their chief, *Timotheus*, from a coward's grave.—
Yet more ; *Nicanor* is with thousands slain ;
The blasphemous *Nicanor*, who defy'd
The living God, and in his wanton pride,
A monument ordain'd
Of victories yet ungain'd :

But

But lo ! the conqueror comes, and on his spear
 To dissipate all fear,
 He bears the vaunter's head and hand,
 That threaten'd desolation to the land.

C H O R U S.

*Sing unto God, and high affections raise,
 To crown this conquest with unmeasur'd praise.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

J U D A S

Sweet flow the strains that strike my feasted ear.—
 Angels might stoop from heav'n to hear
 The comely songs ye sing
 To *Israel's* lord and king.——

But pause awhile——due obsequies prepare
 To thole who bravely fell in war.——
 To *Eleazer* special tribute pay. ——

Through slaughter'd troops he cut his way
 To the distinguish'd elephant, and, whelm'd beneath
 The deep stabb'd monster, triumph'd in a glorious
 [death.

A I R.

*With honour let desert be crown'd,
 The trumpet ne'er in vain shall sound ;*

But

*But all attentive to alarms,
The willing nations fly to arms ;
And conquering or conquer'd, claim the prize
Of happy earth, or far more happy skies.*

EUPOLEMUS. [The Jewish Ambassador to Rome.]

Peace to my countrymen ; peace and liberty .—
From the great Senate of Imperial Rome.
With a firm league of amity I come :
Rome, whate'er nation dare insult us more,
Will rouse, in our defence, her veteran power ;
And stretch her vengeful arm by land or sea,
“ To curb the proud, and set the injur'd free.

C H O R U S.

*To our great God be all the honour giv'n,
That grateful hearts can send from earth to heav'n.*

R E C I T A T I V E.

Israelitish Woman.

Again to earth let gratitude descend.—
Praise-worthy is our hero, and our friend,
Come, my fair daughters, choicest art bestow,
To weave a chaplet for the victor's brow ;

And

And in your songs for ever be confess'd
“ The valour that preserv'd the pow'r that blest'd;
Blest'd you with hours, that scatter as they fly,
Soft quiet, gentle love, and boundless joy.

A I R.

*O lovely peace, with plenty crown'd,
Come, spread thy blessings all around,
Let fleecy flocks the hills adorn,
And vallies smile with wavy corn ;
Let the shrill trumpet cease, nor other sound,
But nature's songsters, wake the chearful morn.*

A I R and C H O R U S.

S I M O N.

*Rejoice, O Judah, and in songs divine,
With Cherabim and Ceraphin harmonious join.*

Hallelujah, &c.

F I N I S.



